



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

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MAN SENTENCED ON COCAINE CHARGES

TOPEKA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Miguel Orozco-Hernandez, 30**, San Bernardino, California, was sentenced on April 29, 2004, by U.S. District Judge Sam A. Crow to **five years and ten months in federal prison, without parole, to be followed by three years of supervised release.**

Melgren stated that Orozco-Hernandez entered a guilty plea on October 31, 2003, to one count of possession with the intent to distribute approximately 21 kilograms (approximately 46 pounds) of cocaine on April 5, 2003.

Melgren said that Orozco-Hernandez admitted at his plea that on April 5, 2003, the Toyota 4-Runner in which he was a passenger was stopped by the Kansas Highway Patrol on I-70 in Shawnee County, Kansas, for a traffic violation. Orozco-Hernandez further admitted that when the trooper searched the vehicle he found approximately 21 kilograms (approximately 46 pounds) of cocaine hidden inside the spare tire.

Co-defendant **Julio Caesar Granados-Orozco, 27**, Hesperia, California, entered a guilty plea on October 1, 2003, to one count of possession with the intent to distribute approximately 21 kilograms (approximately 46 pounds) of cocaine on April 5, 2003. Granados-Orozco was sentenced on March 12, 2004, to nine years in federal prison, without parole, to be followed by five years of supervised release.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony Mattivi in this prosecution.